

THE CIVIL WAR REPORTER



Newsletter

www.mchenrycivilwar.com

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 10

TUESDAY OCTOBER 12, 2010

McHENRY, ILLINOIS 60051

**MCHENRY COUNTY
CIVIL WAR
ROUND TABLE
MEETING / PRESENTATION
TUESDAY OCTOBER 12, 2010**

**AT OUR NEW MEETING PLACE
WOODSTOCK LIBRARY
440 WEST JUDD STREET
WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS**

NEW TIME
7:00PM to 8:30PM

**MCCWRT
PRESENTS**

**The Greatest
Military Campaign**

A Group Discussion By
Jeff Rees and Fred Reczkowicz



**MCHENRY COUNTY
CIVIL WAR
ROUND TABLE**

SERVING THE COMMUNITY
AND MCHENRY COUNTY
SINCE IT'S FOUNDING AT

**UNION ILLINOIS
1998**



MISSION STATEMENT

**THE MCHENRY COUNTY
CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO PROMOTE
AND FOSTER EDUCATION, DISCUSSION,
AND THE ANALYSIS OF AND ABOUT
THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR.
BY LEARNING ABOUT THE PAST....
WE WILL HOPE TO MORE COMPLETELY
UNDERSTAND THE PRESENT, AND HAVE
A POSITIVE EFFECT ON THE COMMUNITY**

**MCCWRT
LOOKS FOWARD TO CELEBRATING
AMERICA'S CIVIL WAR
SESQUECENTENNIAL**



From November 2010 through December of 2011
The Civil War Reporter Newsletter
Will Run A Special Editorial Called
THIS MONTH DURING THE CIVIL WAR

**DISCUSSION AT BORDERS
SATURDAY OCTOBER 22, 2010
WE ARE**

**STILL MEETING AT
Borders Books, Music and Café**

6000 Northwest Highway
Crystal Lake, Illinois

10:00A.M. to NOON

**This Month's Topic
General George Custer**

Stop by for a cup of coffee, relax and enjoy some friendly conversation about one of the many topics concerning the American Civil War.

Join in, or just listen to one of the many great debates which will usually occur at one time or another during our allotted time at the monthly scheduled gathering of the:

**Saturday Morning
Discussion at Borders**

**Every Fourth Saturday of the Month
THE PUBLIC IS ALWAYS WELCOME
AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

All Questions, Comments or Suggestions concerning MCCWRT's Monthly Newsletter, The Civil War Reporter, can be sent directly to K.M. Fisher, via his e-mail address kmfisher51@gmail.com.

Your input is very important to us and we look forward to hearing your ideas and suggestions.

K.M. Fisher Editor
Civil War Reporter

CALENDER OF EVENTS



McHENRY COUNTY CWRT

OUR NEW MEETING LOCATION
THE WOODSTOCK LIBRARY
440 WEST JUDD STREET
WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS
Also Note New Meeting Time
7:00PM to 8:30PM

Tuesday October 12, 2010: Presentation
"The Greatest Military Campaign"
Discussion Led By
Jeff Rees and Fred Reczkowicz

Saturday October 23, 2010: Discussion
General George Armstrong Custer

Saturday November 6, 2010
MCCWRT ANNUAL FALL SYMPOSIUM
At
PINECREST GOLF CLUB
11220 WEST ALGONQUIN ROAD
HUNTLEY, ILLINOIS

Tuesday November 9, 2010: Presentation
ANDERSONVILLE'S COMMANDANT
CAPTAIN HENRY WIRZ
By Rick Benson

Saturday November 27, 2010: Discussion
Riots During the Civil War
No Meetings: December, January

CHICAGO CWRT

Saturday October 9, 2010: Presentation
The Blockade
By Craig Symonds

Saturday November 12, 2010: Presentation
The Nevins Freeman Address
By Robert Girardi
No Meetings During August

SALT CREEK CWRT

Friday October 15, 2010: Presentation
Zebulon B. Vance
South Carolina Governor & Blockade Runner
By Roger Bohn

Tuesday November 30, 2010: Auction
Glen Ellyn History Center Auction
No Meetings: July and August

LAKE COUNTY CWRT

Wednesday October 6, 2010: Presentation
The Bell City Rifles
By Charlie Jaris

Wednesday November 3, 2010: Presentation
The Almighty Mother Bickerdyke
By Carol Bradbury
No Meetings June, July and August

NORTHERN ILLINOIS CWRT

Friday October 1, 2010: Presentation
General Longstreet
By Harold Knudsen

Friday November 5, 2010: Presentation
Battle of Spotsylvania: The Bloody Angle
By Frank O'Reilly
No Meetings July and August

KANKAKEE VALLEY CWRT

Wednesday October 6, 2010: Presentation
Civil War Facts
By Don White

Wednesday November 3, 2010: Presentation
G.K. Warren & The Battle of Five Forks
By Paula Walker
No Meetings July and August

SOUTH SUBURBAN CWRT

Thursday October 28, 2010: Presentation
Finding Hallowed Ground:
America's Historic Civil War Sites Today
By Michael Weeks

Thursday November 18, 2010: Presentation
Darling of the South Pauline Cushman
By Helen Milam
No Meetings June and July

LINCOLN - DAVIS CWRT

Please Note, Presentation Will be Held
On the 2nd Tuesday of the Month & Not the Third

Tuesday October 12, 2010: Presentation
"A Dark & Bloody Ground"
By Michael Phelps

KENOSHA CIVIL WAR MUSEUM



www.kenosha.org/civilwar/index.html

5400 First Avenue
Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140

(262) 653-4141

McHENRY COUNTY
CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
SUBSCRIBES TO
AND IS A PROUD MEMBER OF
NICCWRT
NORTHERN ILLINOIS COALLITION
OF
CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLES



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CCWRT: www.thecivilwarroundtable.org

MCCWRT FALL SYMPOSIUM

WILL BE HELD ON
SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 6, 2010
At
PINECREST GOLF CLUB
11220 West Algonquin, Road
Huntley, Illinois

Speakers:
Dave Powell (Chickamauga), Donald Clark (Bull Nelson),
Bruce Allardice (Baseball) and John Walsh (Perryville)

See Page 5
Of This Month's Newsletter
For Details & Reservation Request

WELCOME
TO
MICHAEL TERRY

FROM MONTGOMERY, ILLINOIS

AS A NEW RECRUIT
TO THE RANKS OF THE
McHENRY COUNTY
CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



CIVILWAR.org
Saving America's Civil War Battlefields



CIVIL WAR PRESERVATION TRUST

Photo: "Cannon at Gettysburg" by Becky Shayda of York, Pennsylvania, Age 17

By: K.M. Fisher

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 31, 2010

**Eight National Celebrities Appear
On Behalf of No Casino Gettysburg**

Pro-Bono Video Production Submitted to Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

Filmmaker Ken Burns, author David McCullough, actors Sam Waterston, Matthew Broderick, Stephen Lang, Medal of Honor recipient Paul W. Bucha, President Eisenhower's granddaughter Susan Eisenhower and even a haunting score by Oscar-winning composer John Williams made an appearances via video at the (PGCB Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board) hearing this morning in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

Susan Star Paddock, chair of the grassroots group No Casino Gettysburg, turned the Comfort Suites conference room in Gettysburg into a movie theatre for her 10-minute testimony.

The professional quality video, prepared entirely by volunteers, is a plea to the PGCB to deny a license for a casino just 1/2 mile from the boundary of the Gettysburg National Military Park.

"People wonder how a small town non-profit could persuade celebrities to appear free in this," Paddock said. "These significant individuals were simply asked. It is Gettysburg itself, and the reverence America feels for this hallowed ground that persuaded them to join our cause." The 9.5 minute video also features Paddock and four local residents of Gettysburg, including Charles McElhose III, a 14-year-old Civil War reenactor. No Casino

Gettysburg is fighting local developer David LeVan who led the push for a casino gambling license in 2005 but was defeated in 2006. This time, he has teamed with Penn National and a casino developer Joseph Lashinger Jr. of Florida and Penn National to pursue a "resort casino" license at the site of the current Eisenhower Inn, less than 3000 feet from the Gettysburg National Military Park, and about 1 mile from the Eisenhower National Historic Site.

The resort sits directly on the national scenic byway "Journey Through Hallowed Ground," just minutes from locations of civil war carnage.

The PGCB started their hearing this morning to review local opinion. The hearing is the largest and most contentious in Pennsylvania gaming history, with over 350 individuals and 29 community groups scheduled to speak.

Just like the mosque situation in New York City, this argument over how to treat the context of sacred ground has sharply divided the local area residents and has created a stir nationally.

The Gettysburg area casino, called "a national disgrace" by the American Legion, is also opposed by 275 historians, National Trust for Historic Preservation, National Parks Conservation Association, Civil War Preservation Trust, and Preservation Pennsylvania.



Our Mission:

The Civil War Preservation Trust is America's largest non-profit organization (501-C3) devoted to the preservation of our nation's endangered Civil War battlefields. The Trust also promotes educational programs and heritage tourism initiatives to inform the public of the war's history and the fundamental conflicts that sparked it.

**Haven't All of the Civil War Battlefields
Been Saved Already?**

Actually, only about 20 percent of the actual land upon which the Civil War was fought is currently preserved either by the nonprofits groups such as CWPT or in national, state or local parks – all of the rest of that hallowed ground is either unprotected or has already been destroyed.

We are racing the developers to save what is left.

**How Much Hallowed Ground Has Already
Been Lost?**

According to a study done by the U.S. Congress, fully 20 percent of the hallowed ground of the Civil War has already been destroyed forever, covered by roads, housing developments and other inappropriate development.

Battlefields such as Chantilly and Salem Church in Virginia are just two examples of battlegrounds all but destroyed.

**Does the Civil War Preservation Trust Ever Get
Involved With "Taking" Land, or with Eminent
Domain issues?**

Never. We deal only with willing sellers and pay only fair market value for properties.

Who Owns That Unprotected Land?

In most cases, it is held by private landowners. Some families have owned battlefield properties since the War. Until it is officially preserved, that land can be sold to a developer or rezoned for development by government action literally at any moment.

**How Quickly are we Losing
Key Battlefield Sites?**

At current rates of development and due to rapidly increasing land prices, our nation loses approximately one acre of hallowed ground every hour.

We calculate that the fate of the remaining unprotected ground will be determined within the next five to fifteen years, depending on its location.

**How Does the CWPT
Buy Hallowed Ground?**

The Civil War Preservation Trust has been one of the most successful non-profit organizations in America in securing federal, state, local and private matching funds to save battlefields. We then multiply those funds with money raised from our members around the world.

What this means to you is that every dollar you, as a member, give to preserve America's history is multiplied many times over.

In fact, over the past six years, CWPT has multiplied our members' donations by a factor of four – every \$1.00 given by our members has been matched by outside grants and turned into \$4.00. In total, using this formula, we have saved more than 25,000 acres of hallowed ground nationwide.

**Why is it So Important
To Save These Places?**

Can you imagine a fast-food restaurant in the middle of Arlington Cemetery? Can you imagine paving over the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial?

Can you imagine destroying the remaining original copies of the Declaration of Independence or the Constitution? Of course not.

But with each square foot of battlefield land that is consumed, whole chapters of America's history are being ripped out of the book of our national memory, and an irreplaceable piece of our important heritage is lost and gone forever.

Saving battlefields not only preserves our history, but also creates valuable open space; in the not-to-distant future, these preserved Civil War battlefields will be the "urban parks" of their communities, just like Central Park is to New York City.

CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

By Linda K. Brown
(A Member of MCCWRT)

Quotes of Abraham Lincoln

Things may come to those who wait, but only the things left by those who hustle.

Those who deny freedom to others....
deserve it not for themselves.

To stand in silence when they should be protesting
makes cowards out of men.

A Lincoln

For Questions, Comments or Suggestions
concerning Linda's Civil War Trivia Column:
contact her at- ms.lindab444@yahoo.com

The Strangest & Most Beautiful Streets in the World

By Marie Wilt
(Co-Founder & Member of MCCWRT)



Tuesday September 14, 2010 Presentation At the Woodstock Library Illinois Civil War Heroes By Frank Crawford

Frank used *carte des visites* from his collection to represent the various heroes from Illinois, the men that died for their country so America would remain a country as they knew and loved.

Men like General T.E.G. Ransom who died of four separate wounds and exhaustion to Colonel Thomas Humphrey of the 95th Illinois who was killed in Action to others that died of disease, died as artillerymen as well as cavalrymen.

Colonel John Mudd - 4th Illinois Cavalry that was sent home twice from the field of battle to die and returned twice to serve and then was decapitated by a cannon shell during the Red River Campaign.

Even Colonel Frederick J. Hurlbut that died after returning home from four years of hard and dangerous service only to drown, in full uniform, after falling from a bridge over the Chicago River on his way to officially muster out of the service. All of the men that gave their lives should be considered heroes.

Frank Crawford

THE REVOLUTION IN WARFARE

From Robert E. Lee's Civil War By Bevin Alexander

Robert E. Lee was no different from many other commanders on both sides who did not recognize that a new weapon, the Mini'e-ball rifle musket, had revolutionized the battlefield and made traditional military tactics obsolete.

The Mini'e bullet, or Mini'e ball, was invented by a French army officer named Claude-E'tienne Mini'e. It had an effective range of 400 yards, four times more than the existing infantry weapon, the smoothbore musket, and was lethal and somewhat controllable out to a thousand yards.

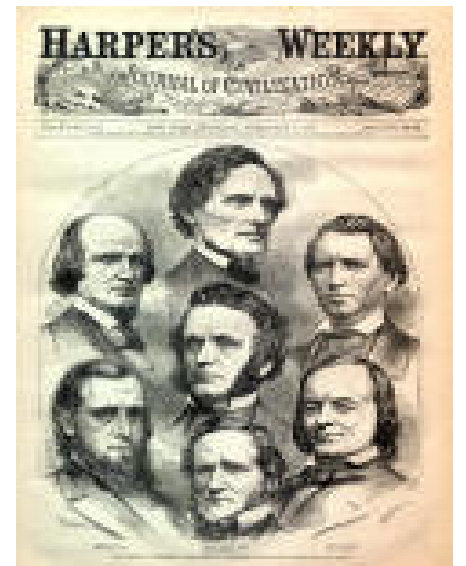
By quadrupling the killing zone through which attacking soldiers had to march, the Mini'e-ball rifle-combined with a growing emphasis on defensive fortifications-made the orthodox methods of conducting battle so costly that attacks were becoming exercises in murder and mayhem.

Both commanders North and South were following outdated battle tactics that had been built around forces armed with the smoothbore musket.

These tactics called for troops to march up shoulder to shoulder to about a hundred yards from an opponent's position in a long line of battle two men deep. In an era of single-shot weapons, the only way firepower could be multiplied was to increase the number of men carrying weapons and to get them close enough to hit the enemy.

The Mini'e ball alone would have changed everything, but its effect was greatly intensified by the use of field fortifications.

These included abates to slow the advance of the attackers, entrenchments to shield defending soldiers, and cleared spaces in front of breastworks to expose attackers to defender's fire.



The Lincoln Family Tree



1. Abraham Lincoln 1809-1865
2. Mary Todd Lincoln 1818-1882
3. Robert Todd Lincoln 1843-1926
4. Mary Harlan Lincoln 1846-1937
5. Mary (Mamie) Lincoln 1869-1938
6. Abraham (Jack) Lincoln II 1873-1890
7. Jessie Lincoln Beckwith Johnson Randolph 1875-1948
8. Lincoln Isham 1892-1971
9. Mary (Peggy) Lincoln Beckwith 1898-1975
10. Robert Lincoln Beckwith 1904-1985

Family...

Mary Lincoln Beckwith (Peggy) was the last Lincoln descendant to live at Hildene. She inherited Hildene in 1938 and lived there until her death in 1975. Her brother Robert Todd Lincoln Beckwith (Bud) was the last direct Lincoln descendant. He died at his home in Dorset, Vermont in 1985.

History

A Great Preservation Story

Robert Todd Lincoln built Hildene as a summer home at the turn of the 20th century. He was the only child of Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln to survive to maturity.

Robert first visited Manchester as a young man in the summers of 1863 and 1864 when he came to the Equinox Hotel with his mother and his brother Tad.

He was so taken by the beauty of Vermont that some forty years later he returned to purchase 500 acres of land to build what he would call his ancestral home.

At the time, Robert was president of the Pullman Company, the largest manufacturing corporation in the country.



The non-profit Friends of Hildene raised the money to purchase the estate in 1978 and began the long process of restoring the home and gardens.

The formal gardens, designed as a birthday gift by Jesse Lincoln for her mother Mary, include many of the original plantings from 1907 and they would produce thousands of peonies each June.

Robert accepted an appointment as Secretary of War and served from 1881 to 1885 under both Presidents Garfield and Chester A. Arthur.

Robert later served as Minister to the Court of Saint James's (U.S. Ambassador to the United Kingdom) from 1889 to 1893 under President Benjamin Harrison and then returned to private practice as a lawyer.

He was general counsel for the Pullman Palace Car Company under George Pullman and was named as president after Pullman's death in 1897.

In 1911, Robert Lincoln became chairman of the board until he stepped down in 1924, but remained on the board until 1926.

